

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, May 16, 2005 at 4:30pm at the Lilly Nature Center.

Present at said meeting were Paula Woods, Leon Trachtman, Garnet Peck, Nancy Offutt and Attorney John Sorensen. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Chris Foley, Brenda Lorenz, Lee Booth, and Cheryl Kolb represented the Department. Also present was Council member Gil Satterly. Absent was Park Board member Mike Dana, Council members Gerry Keen, Ann Hunt and staff member Brian Tunis.

Paula convened the Board at 4:33 pm.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the April 18 meeting. Leon motioned the minutes be approved as presented. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Superintendent** – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report and attachments were included in the mailing.
- Open the Trailside Park quotes today. There were two good quotes received, one from Fairfield Builders, and one from Milestone. Milestone submitted the lowest responsible quote. The purchase order from the Wabash fund was approved at last month's meeting, so we will proceed to get that park under development.
- Reported that we have received \$30,000.00 to date and anticipate another \$5,000.00 from the Lafayette Rotary Club, Lafayette Daybreak Rotary Club, and the Lafayette Rotary Foundation, Inc. There will be a dedication at the Wabash Heritage Trail Overlook at the end of Brown St. on May 31 at 1:30pm. The volunteer planting day has been scheduled for the Wednesday prior to the dedication, with a rain date of Friday morning.

**Assistant Superintendent** – Pennie reported on the following:

- Softball league play started on Monday, May 9. We have twenty-seven Coed teams and seven Men's teams. The Men's League plays on Mondays and Wednesdays, four games per night at the Arni Cohen South field. Pony League play takes place on the field on Tuesdays and Fridays. Pony League has agreed to use a movable pitching rubber. To date, we have not received any complaints. The Senior Softball informal league plays on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30am-10:30am.
- The Coed League plays Monday thru Thursday on the Arni Cohen North field and the Blessed Sacrament field. They also play on Thursday evenings on the Arni Cohen South field.
- In the process of developing a softball information section on our web page that will list schedules, roster, rules, and game cancellations due to inclement weather.

**Parks** – Lee reported on the following:

- Noted the trail and playground inspections were available.
- 2005 softball field safety audit.
- Keeping up with grounds work.
- Finishing preparation of the pool for opening day.
- Preparing Tapawingo Park and the Overlook for the upcoming dedication, May 31.

**Recreation** – Chris reported on the following:

- Summer registrations are underway. The Playground programs at both Cumberland and Burtfield Schools are very popular. Both sessions are full at Cumberland and

Burtsfield has a few openings in the second session. Due to school construction, the Wonderful Weekdays program will be located this summer at Cumberland school.

- We are working with the school officials regarding the construction projects at Happy Hollow School. The tennis court between the school and pool will have the nets/posts and two sides of the fencing removed to make a larger play area for the schoolchildren. We will still offer tennis lessons on the two remaining courts.

- The pool will open for the season on Friday, May 27 at 1:00pm. The staff has been hired for the season. The pool will be available for private rentals June 1-August 7.

**Morton Center** – Brenda reported on the following:

- There have been 521 registrations so far, compared to 686 registrations last year at this time, which is approximately a 24% decrease from last year.

- Wednesday, May 18, I will be staffing a display about Morton and West Lafayette Parks for a Brown Bag Luncheon and Living Well over 50 event at Riehle Plaza. The Lafayette Leader published a nice article and picture promoting the Mor' Danc'n Recital that is scheduled for May 21. This morning on WLFI-TV 18, one of Morton's instructors, Nancy Van Doren, gave a tai chi demonstration and promoted the Living Well over 50 event, which will be Wednesday. She will be giving a demonstration at the event that day, as well, to promote her classes.

- Tickets are available for Saturday's recital, and complimentary tickets to the recital can be obtained if anyone is interested in attending.

- Reported with sadness that Morton's Administrative Assistant, Catharine Early, has resigned, effective June 3. We will have an open house for her that afternoon from 3-4:30pm to give people a chance to say goodbye. There will be cake. Everyone is invited to attend. We have received a number of applications for the position. We should be interviewing within the next week or so.

- There has been some interest expressed in renting Room 102 at Morton on a monthly basis beginning possibly as early as August. The group that is interested is a Fencing Club. A dialogue will continue with them, and we will reach a point where we will be able to send a copy of an agreement form to you to study, hopefully before the next meeting. If anyone has any questions or issues now that they would like to see

**Beautification & Stewardship** – Lee reported on the following in Brian's absence:

- Purdue horticulture students helped plant landscaping at the Heritage Trail entrance by the Wastewater Treatment Plant and at the Brown St. Overlook in Tapawingo Park.

- The Earth Day Garlic Mustard pull was a big success with fifteen volunteers yielding fifty-three bags of garlic mustard.

- Arbor Day, we planted a lilac tree at City Hall near the front entrance.

- Have been working on additional landscaping in Cumberland Park along the new trail.

- This coming Saturday is "DeTrash the Wabash" volunteer day.

Leon congratulated everyone that has been involved with the garlic mustard pull. He admitted that two or three years ago he was a skeptic. He thought that they would never be able to keep up with it, yet they have done a beautiful job, and you see relatively little of it because of their efforts.

## **Old Business**

### **Trailside Park**

Joe added that Milestone plans to be finished with their portion of the work in July. We will have quite a bit of additional work to do, fencing, installing site furnishings, and

landscaping. The landscaping will probably not begin until September. We hope to have it wrapped up and looking very nice by the end of fall.

## **New Business**

N/A

### **West Lafayette School Board**

Nancy reported the Happy Hollow Maintenance Project has been targeted to begin, as scheduled, as soon as school is over for the year. The Band room project estimated cost came in much higher than what was anticipated for the plan that would go out over the parking lot. They are committed to staying with the original targeted figure of \$800,000.00. The figure came in at approximately \$1.6 million, which was almost twice, of what was anticipated. They are currently looking at reconfiguring the mini gym into a band room and full practice room. At this time, they are exploring some other options as alternatives. There is still a lot of uncertainty regarding the funding of these projects, and exactly how everything will eventually play out. The school corporation had a staff recognition reception last week. Nancy brought several programs, which listed the specific teachers that were recognized for their years of service. It was a very nice program organized by the School Board President, Dianne Sautter.

### **Wabash River**

Joe reported that he, along with some others, spent all of last Wednesday meeting with the three candidates for the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation Director position. The Board of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation will be meeting this week to pursue making the hiring decision. Joe noted there have been very good candidates for the position, noting the start time has yet to be determined.

Paula reported that the next local meeting is scheduled for June 9 at 4:00pm in room 211 at Morton Community Center.

### **Petty Cash/Cash Change Funds**

Chris requested approval of a cash/change fund for \$150.00 for the Mor'Danc'n recital from the Non Reverting Operating fund to revert back no later than August 31, 2005. We would also like approval for the cash/change fund for the Municipal Pool for \$100.00 from the Non Reverting Operating fund to revert back no later than October 31, 2005. We would also like to request a petty cash fund for \$150.00 from the Non Reverting Operating fund for the Playground Program to revert back no later than October 31, 2005. Leon motioned to approve the petty cash and cash/change funds as presented. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### **Coca-Cola Vending Machines**

Pennie requested approval to put in two Coca-Cola vending machines, one at Cumberland Park near the restroom building located by the basketball courts and the other at Happy Hollow Park near the restroom building. The front of the machine will carry a nice outdoor theme rather than having Coke all over the front of the machine. They will carry 20 oz. plastic bottles and the cost will be \$1.00. Our portion of the sales will be 25%, or \$0.25 per bottle sold. Garnet motioned to approve entering into agreement with Coca-Cola for the machines to be placed at the locations specified by Pennie. Leon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**West Lafayette Library Request**

Pennie presented a request from the West Lafayette Library asking for a donation of forty single admission pool passes for their summer reading program, Leap into Reading. We have granted this same request in year's past. Due to our rate increase this year, the donation would amount to \$100.00 Leon motioned to approve the donation of the single admission pool passes as requested by the library. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Budget Request Process**

Joe reported that we are just beginning to put together the primary budget requests for 2006, including our wish list for park improvements. Joe noted he would provide the Board with further information once they receive further guidance from the Clerk-Treasurer and the Mayor. At this point in time, we do not have significant major changes anticipated, but as Nancy alluded to earlier about budgets, we are all stumbling forward with the new rules at this time.

Pennie reminded everyone to keep in mind the status of the Non Reverting Operating Fund; the fact that revenue is declining, yet we have had to take on more expense responsibility from that account, noting salaries as a major expense to the fund.

**North Chauncey Streetscape Project**

Joe reported that one of our nice, new benches was removed from its location. The incident was caught on camera at 12:15am, although not well enough to identify the two young men removing it. One of our inspectors spotted the bench in an apartment complex yard. We have since placed it back in its original spot, using some welding equipment this time to help keep it in its place.

**Purchase Orders**

N/A

**Pay Claims**

Garnet motioned that claims be paid. Leon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 4:55pm.

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Presiding Officer

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Secretary